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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/535,558	05/18/2005	William Donaldson	US02 0459 US	7712

24738 7590 08/09/2006

PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NORTH AMERICA CORPORATION
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EXAMINER	
RAYMOND, EDWARD	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2857	

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/535,558	DONALDSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Edward Raymond	2857	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 May 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *18 May 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *20050518*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-19** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gelman.

Gelman teaches a protection circuit (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see col. 2, lines 11-27) comprising: a control circuit for controlling switching of at least one switch, of a floating power transfer device (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see col. 3, lines 7-13), the at least one switch controlling charging of a reservoir capacitor of the floating power transfer device across which a load is applied when in use (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see col. 5, lines 48-52); a fault detection circuit for detecting a fault in at least one of the floating power transfer device or the load, and for sending a fault detect signal to the control circuit responsive thereto (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see col. 6, lines 35-43); and a pre-charge driver circuit for pre-charging the reservoir capacitor (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see col. 5, line 66 through col. 6, lines 3), the pre-charge driver circuit being enabled by the control circuit responsive to receipt of the fault detect signal from the fault detection circuit (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see Figure 5: Pre-Charge Circuits 40 and 41), wherein

when enabled, the pre-charge driver circuit attempts to pre-charge the reservoir capacitor to a voltage level sufficient for switching of the at least one switch to proceed without damaging the at least one switch (Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19: see col. 6, lines 4-14).

Gelamn teaches a protection wherein the fault detection circuit resides in a floating portion of the floating power transfer device (Claim 2, 8 and 14: see Figure 2: Control and Supervision Circuit 15) and the control circuit resides in a ground referenced portion of the floating power transfer device (Claim 2, 8 and 14: see col. 4, lines 8-18), and wherein the protection circuit further comprises a float level shift circuit for shifting the fault detect signal from the floating portion of the floating power transfer device to the ground referenced portion for forwarding to the control circuit (Claim 2, 8 and 14: see Figure 4).

Gelman teaches a protection circuit wherein the fault detection circuit further comprises circuitry for directly or indirectly monitoring when voltage across the reservoir capacitor of the floating power transfer device falls below a fault threshold (Claim 3, 9 and 15: see Figure 4: Gate Drive and Supervison Circuit 15), and for sending the fault detect signal to the control circuit responsive thereto (Claim 3, 9 and 15: see col. 6, lines 34-48).

Gelman teaches a protection circuit wherein the floating power transfer device further comprises a power supply having a voltage level in a range of 5 to 20 volts (Claim 4, 10 and 16: see col. 3, lines 53-67), the power supply charging the reservoir capacitor of the floating power transfer device when the at least one switch is turned on (Claim 4, 10 and 16: see col. 3, lines 53-67).

Gelman teaches a protection circuit wherein the at least one switch comprises two switches, operated in tandem for cyclically applying the power supply voltage across the reservoir capacitor to charge the capacitor (Claim 5, 11 and 17: see col. 2, line 67 through col. 3, line 2).

Gelman teaches a protection circuit further comprising a temperature sensor for detecting when temperature of the at least one switch rises above a set temperature level (Claim 6, 12 and 18: see col. 4, lines 14-19), and for sending an over temperature signal to the control circuit responsive thereto, and wherein the control circuit further comprises means for temporarily shutting down the floating power transfer device and subsequently reinitiating a startup procedure responsive to receipt of the over temperature signal (Claim 6, 12 and 18: see col. 6, lines 34-48).

Contact Information

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward Raymond whose telephone number is 571-272-2221. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc Hoff can be reached on 571-272-2216. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Edward Raymond
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2857

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